

171-03 Carver George
Fulbright J. W.

FULBRIGHT STIRS NEW C.I.A. ISSUE

He Is Concerned by Article
Written by Agency Aide

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WASHINGTON, April 20—

Senator J. W. Fulbright has asked the Central Intelligence Agency to take a look at the propriety of letting its analysts present official statements and conclusions to American readers in the guise of independent scholarship. The C.I.A. has promised him a full discussion.

Mr. Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, raised the issue in a recent letter to Adm. William F. Raborn, Director of Central Intelligence. The Senator said he was concerned about the lead article in the current issue of Foreign Affairs by George A. Carver Jr.

Mr. Carver, a specialist on Vietnam affairs, is a full-time analyst for the intelligence agency and has recently been considered for service on the White House staff. His article, "The Faceless Vietcong," was a compilation of the evidence for the Administration's contention that the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam is a "contrived political mechanism" of the Communist party of North Vietnam.

However, the editors of Foreign Affairs, who called special attention to the article in their advance distributions to the press, did not identify Mr. Carver as a Government employee.

A Student and Author

He was described as a student of political theory and Asian affairs, with degrees from Yale and Oxford, a former officer in the United States aid mission in Saigon and author of "Aesthetics and the Problem of Meaning."

The C.I.A. is known to have allowed a number of its employees who have high standing in the academic world to write or even teach outside their regular working hours. Presumably, they are subject to the same constraints as other Government officials and must have their writings approved as conforming to official policy. Often, at least some Government connection is indicated.

Mr. Fulbright said it was premature to protest the Carver article or the agency's policies. He inquired about the practice after a member of his committee staff raised the issue, he said.

In a reply received this morning, Mr. Fulbright said, Admiral Raborn offered to meet with him to discuss the practice and the questions it raises. The Senator said he hoped to hold the meeting soon.

Mr. Carver's article reviewed the organization of the Vietcong and its political affiliate, the National Liberation Front, and their links to the North Vietnamese Communists.

He said his conclusion that the front had no indigenous roots and that it was subject to the ultimate control of Hanoi was "not open to intellectually honest dispute."

Though many non-Communists serve the front out of a sense of genuine grievance, he wrote, the chances that the Vietcong could develop or adopt a "genuinely independent line in opposition to orders received from North Vietnam" were "slight indeed."